formulate a National Policy on Disaster Management for adoption of a holistic and pro-active approach towards prevention and mitigation of disasters and preparedness for response. The Government of India has also emphasized to the States that as Disaster Management is a multi-disciplinary activity involving a number of Departments/Agencies, the State Governments should also have a policy in place. The Disaster Management Policies of Central and State Governments are expected to serve as a framework for action by all the relevant Departments/ Agencies. The board objective of the Policy at the national and state level would be to minimize loss of lives and social, private and community assets and to contribute to sustainable development. The Government have also recommended to the State Governments to enact a Disaster Management Act. The Act may provide adequate powers to authorities for coordinating mitigation, preparedness, response and relief measures during different Stages of disaster management.

(c) The Government have taken several measures encompassing prevention, mitigation preparedness, response and relief. These measures *inter-alia* include training and capacity building for multi hazard mitigation; upgrading early warning systems; drawing up of disaster management and emergency support function plans; setting up of emergency operation centres; setting up of specialist search and rescue teams; establishment of regional response centres where caches of essential search and rescue equipments will be stored; introducing incident command system; development of online national inventory of diaster response resources; implementation of a national emergency communication plan and introduction of disaster management in public education. These measures taken together would help to mitigate the impact of natural calamities.

"Food for Work" Programme for backward districts

*14. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a "Food for Work" Programme has been formulated for 150 most backward districts in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the criteria evolved for indentifying the most backward districts, the number of such beneficiary

districts selected, State-wise, and the role assigned to and financial obligation, if any, of the States in implementing the programme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The National Food For Work Programme is being implemented in 150 most backward Districts of the Country from Novermber 2004.

(b) The objective of the programme is to provide additional resources apart from the resources available under the Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) to. 150 most backward districts of the country so that generation of supplementary wage employment and food-security through creation of need based economic, social and community assets in these districts is further intensified. The programme is being implemented as a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme. Foodgrains are also to be provided to the States free of cost. The transportation cost, handling charges, and taxes on foodgrains are the responsibility of the States. Works to be takenup under the programme in accordance with the Five Year Perspective Plan. Collector will be responsible for preparation of the Perspective Plan and programme implementation.

For the States (other than special category States and States in the North-Eastern region except Assam) most backward Districts have been chosen on the basis of an exercise undertaken by the Planning Commission using three parameters, namely (i) agricultural productivity per worker, (ii) agricultural wage rate and (iii) SC/ST population. For the special category States and the States in N.E. region (except Assam), districts were identified from out of the list selected under the Rashtriya Sam Vikas Yojana (RSVY).

At least one district has been selected in each State. All the States except Goa have been covered. The State Governments have been consulted while finalizing the Districts.

For the current year, Rs. 2020 crores have been allocated for the Scheme, in addition of 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains. An amount of Rs. 297.91 crore have been released as a part of initial instalment of the Cash Component besides about 20 lakh tonnes of foodgrains till date. State-wise allocation/release of funds and foodgrains is at statement.

Statement

State-wise allocation/release of funds and foodgrains under food for work programmes

(Rs. in lakhs)

Foodgrains in (MTs)

Sl. No.	States	No. of Districts	*Allocation of funds	Release of part of Initial of Instalment of cash component	Allocation/ Authorization of foodgrains
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8	12766.08	1600.00	125413
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	127.16	127.16	*M249
3.	Assam	5	11093.88	1000.00	108984
4.	Bihar	15	27603.72	3000.00	271183
5.	Chattisgarh	10	11099.79	2000.00	109045
6.	Gujarat	6	4175.02	1200.00	41042
7.	Haryana	1	294.57	200.00	2894
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1	317.63	200.00	3121
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2	516.56	400.00	5074
10.	Jharkhand	14	23614.38	2800.00	232004
11.	Karnataka	3	3057.43	600.00	30038
12.	Kerala	1	571.84	200.00	5618
13.	Madhya Pradesh	15	16521.89	3000.00	162310
14.	Maharashtra	11	14159.67	2200.00	158998
15.	Manipur	1	266.06	200.00	2614
16.	Meghalaya	1	362.46	200.00	- 3562
17.	Mizoram	1	63.66	63.66	626
18.	Nagaland	1	303.72	200.00	2984
19.	Orissa	18	23289.54	3600.00	228863
20	Punjab	1	748.68	200.00	7356
21.	Rajasthan	5	4040.59	1000.00	36269
22.	Sikkim	1	210.42	200.00	2068
23.	Tamil Nadu	4	5070.57	800.00	49815
24.	Tripura	1	1028.60	200.00	10105
25.	Uttranchal	2	1060.67	400.00	10418
26.	Uttar Pradesh	15	27568.84	3000.00	270779
27.	West Bengal	6	11966.60	1200.00	117568
	TOTAL	150	201900.00	29790.82	2000000

* Rs. One crore have been kept for other expenditure *e.g.* IEC, HRD and other administrative expenses at the Ministry level.

** Foodgrains Allocated to Arunachal Pradesh but yet to be authorized because Arunachal Pradesh had not been lifting foodgrains under SGRY. The foodgrains will be authorized as per demand of the State Government.